

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday August 31st 2003

Power Line Transmission (PLT)

ESB have announced that they are to commence experiments in Power Line Transmission (PLT) in October. PLT is a system whereby Broadband Internet connections are made available over power lines. The experiments are scheduled to take place in Port Laoise and Tuam, Co. Galway.

In experiments on the Continent and in the US, PLT has proven to be a very controversial system mainly due to the high level of interference it generates for other spectrum users - including Radio Amateurs. Accordingly, IRTS has been in touch with ComReg to express concern that these experiments are now going ahead and to request that ComReg ensures that PLT can only take place in EI on a strictly non-interference basis.

IRTS HF SSB Field Day

The IRTS HF SSB field day take place next week-end the 6th & 7th of September as part of the IARU Region 1 Field day. Following consultation with clubs it was decided to hold a gathering at a central location. The location will be the grounds of St Josephs College, Garbally, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. At present we have up to 9 stations setting up at the venue. These include groups from Cork, Dundalk, South Dublin Radio, Dalkey Island Club and the local Shannon Basin Radio Club. With so many operators gathering at the one location it is expected that, similar to the CW Field day the event will be a good social event as well as a competitive one. If you are in the locality next week-end please drop by and say hello.

Blarney Rally

This year the Blarney Rally will be held on Sun the 21st of September at the Blarney Park Hotel Co. Cork. The official website of the Blarney Rally is www.blarneyrally.com Blarney is just 2 miles from Cork and is accessible from all major routes.

MREN Rally

The 2003 Mayo Rally will be held on Sunday November the 16th in The Belmont Hotel, Knock, with doors opening at 11.00 a.m. Listeners will remember the success of the first Mayo rally last year, and the club are already hard at work to ensure a repeat success.

Australia

Australian radio amateurs will be permitted to operate between 3.776 MHz and 3.800 MHz from the 1st of January 2004. This follows a proposal put to the Australian Communications Authority by the WIA a number of years ago.

Fingal Radio Club Trip to Telford

Due to unforeseen circumstances one traveller on the Fingal Radio Club trip to Telford on Saturday the 30th and Sunday the 31st of August has had to cancel. Due to this there is now one place left on this trip of the year for Radio Amateurs and computer buffs alike. The cost all in is €160 Euro for a really worthwhile weekend.

If you are interested in travelling, please contact Liam EI3HK at home on 01-8316266 or mobile at 087-2521542.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The 2 metre voice repeater EI2WRC at Mt. Leinster will be off air for the next couple of weeks for essential maintenance and upgrade. In the meantime, the IRTS Radio news from Waterford at 9.30 p.m. each Tuesday night will be read on 145.575 MHz. Updates will be announced in coming weeks.

A committee meeting of the group will take place this coming Wednesday the 3rd of September at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Social and Sports Club, Cleaboy Road, Waterford. Committee members are asked to attend.

Shannon Basin Radio Club Challenge.

The Shannon Basin Radio club is running a one day Open, Fixed, Challenge for EI residence. This challenge is open to all licenced operators and short wave listeners, and will be held annually on the First Sunday of November. The purpose of the challenge is to encourage radio operators and short wave listeners to be active on the H.F bands.

The challenge will have three modes of operation, and the winner in each mode will be awarded with the following;

The Lough Allen Shield will be awarded to the highest score in SSB. The Lough Ree Shield will be awarded to the highest score in CW (A1A). The Lough Derg Shield will be awarded to the highest score for SWL. The above winners will also receive a personal trophy.

To receive a copy of the rules for the above challenge, please send a stamped address envelope to the contest manager EI6HW, Noel Mulvihill, Hillquarter, Coosan, Athlone, Co. Westmeath or e-mail nfmulvihill@eircom.net.

It is very important that persons intending to compete must send notification 10-days prior to the contest date, so get a copy of the rules early.

The next meeting of Shannon Basin Radio Club will take place this coming Wednesday.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded Mark Wall EI7IS. He can be contacted on 087-6302026. News can also be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services.

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